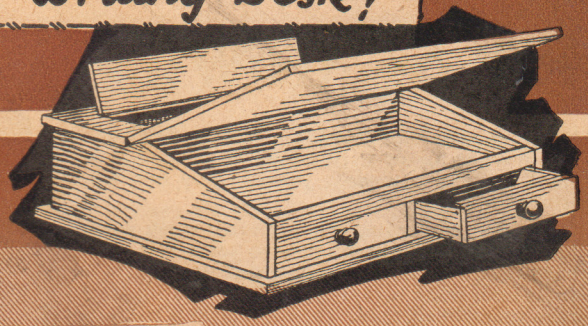
Hobbies WEEKLY

The Fairy Clock Design Free!

A Home made Writing Desk!



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April 6th. 1935 Vol. 80. No. 2059

THE FRETWORKER'S AND HOME CRAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL

Build the "works" as well as the case!

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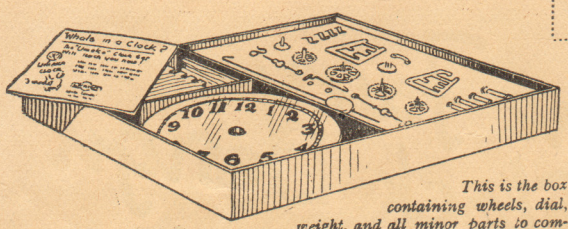

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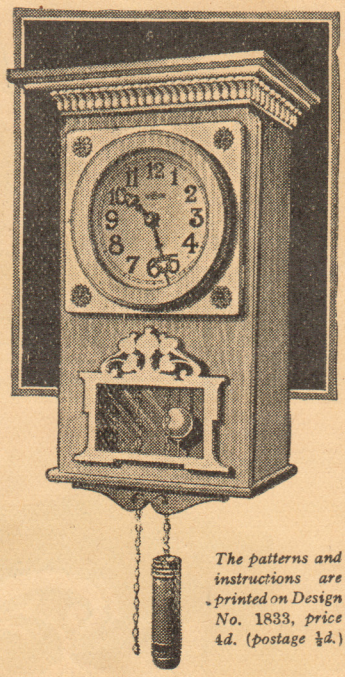

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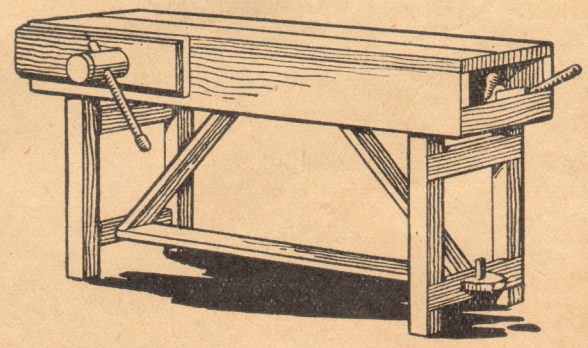

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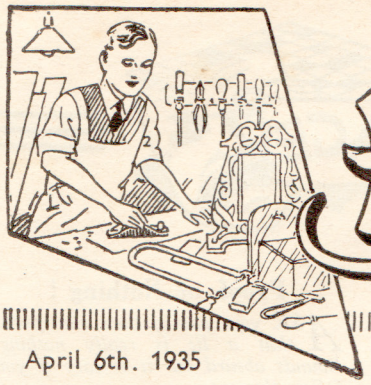
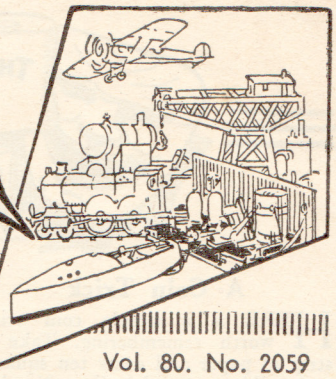


Hobbies WEEKLY



April 6th. 1935

Letters should be addressed to The Editor, Hobbies Weekly, Dereham, Norfolk.

Vol. 80. No. 2059

THIS issue is the first of a new volume and the Index for the one just ended will be ready, I hope, next week. As you may imagine, the issues for six months contain an amazing amount of interest and form an excellent book of reference when bound with the Index in the front.

NOTES of the WEEK

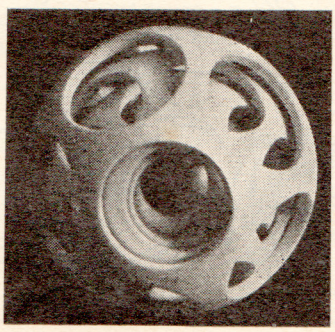
A New Volume !—Designs for the Jubilee—The Lord's Prayer in Welsh—A Ball Novelty—Can you Solve It ?—A New Zea and Picture — A Hobbies Club in London.

A NUMBER of readers are asking if we are going to do anything about the Jubilee ? Certainly we are—Hobbies Weekly is always topical with its designs and articles. I have in hand several interesting designs on the subject, and they will be coming along shortly so you can make them up in commemoration of an event which can only happen once in a lifetime.

I HOPE, too, everyone appreciates the value of these gift Design Sheets. They make the 2d. you spend on the book worth 6d. every week, and often a great deal more when you make the articles up and sell them. No other book offers you such excellent value regularly.

A READER in Wales has asked me for a design of the Lord's Prayer in Welsh, suitable to fit into that popular Design No. 5 Special. I wonder if there are many others who would like it ? Perhaps those interested will drop me a line.

THE picture this week is interesting as well as puzzling. It is of a Septosphere, a curiosity made by L. V. Elliott of 41 Medusa Rd., Catford, London, S.E.6. It is actually a billiard ball carved, as its name implies into seven concentric spheres. The reader saw the idea in a museum years ago, but worked out his own method of making. He says : " Careful marking out of the holes is essential. Then comes the drilling through, enlarging to given depths, and then undercutting between the holes with—but there, why not put the problem to your readers ? I am sure you will make allowance for the mead of secrecy common to craftsmen."



WELL, there it is ; for you to work out for yourself, or even to try your hand at making one. It can be cut in ivory, ebonite or similar material, and the one shown, all cut from the solid block, occupied Mr. Elliott for four or five weeks during his leisure hours.

I HAVE also received an interesting picture, a New Zealand paper showing C. A. Rodda of St. Albans, Christchurch with a number of models he has cut from Hobbies designs. It includes the Noah's Ark and Doll's House which came in for much admiration when published ' down under.'

A NOTE comes from William Clarke of 11 Baches St., Brunswick Place, City Rd., London, N.1. that he wants to know of other readers in the district willing to form a fretwork club.

HAVE you noticed the innovation on ladies' dresses of large buttons of all shapes, styles and colour ? Well, heaps of them are made of wood and painted up. Angular shapes are popular, with chamfered edges, whilst circular or elliptical ones are also the craze. How about cutting some out for lady friends with your fretsaw ? Look in dress shops first and see what you can do about it, in saving money for someone or making money from others.

The Editor

THE FUN AND PUZZLE PAGE

A Coin Trick

HERE is a simple coin trick worth remembering. Take a strip of paper and draw ten squares on it, all in one straight line. Number the squares consecutively from one to ten, beginning at the left. On squares 1, 3, 5 and 7 place silver coins, and on squares 2, 4, 6 and 8 place bronze coins. The problem is to get the bronze coins into squares 3, 4, 5 and 6, and the silver coins into squares 7, 8 and 10. There is this proviso : you must always move two adjacent coins together, and you may never have two coins on the same square at the same time. Given it up ? Then turn to the solution given in column three.

Why did the lobster blush ?
Because it saw the salad dressing.

A Penny Problem

HOW many pennies lying flat one on top of the other do you think it would take to make a pile equal in height to a penny standing on edge ? Ask your pals and you will be surprised how far they are out. Try it yourself and you will find it takes 19 pennies to make the heap.

THE governing body of an asylum had noted the rapid rise of a number of swimming pools nearby, and so they decided to give the inmates one. The Governor reported some time later that the pool was a great success. "The weaker lunatics gambol with balls in the shallow end, and the middle," he said, "but it is the deep end where all the fun comes in. The lunatics somersault, dive and jump from the top board, and go down the chute backwards. Goodness knows what will happen when the water is put in the pool !"

Here is another straightforward catch. How many people can tell you whether the words "One penny" are on the "head" or the "tail" side ? The answer, as you can see for yourself, is the "tail" side.

Why did the fly fly ?
Because the spider spied her.

Why is a mouse like turnips ?
Because the cattle eat them.

Answer to Last Week's Teaser—
An Umbrella.

Proof of Nothing !

ASK your pals if they can prove that a lie is really nothing. Sounds absurd but it is easy if you follow this out.

A Lie is a Story
A Story is a Tale
A Tail is a Brush (of a fox)
A Brush is a Broom
A Brougham is a Carriage
A Carriage is a Trap
A Trap is a Gin
Gin is a Spirit
A Spirit is a Ghost
And a Ghost is nothing !
And there you are !

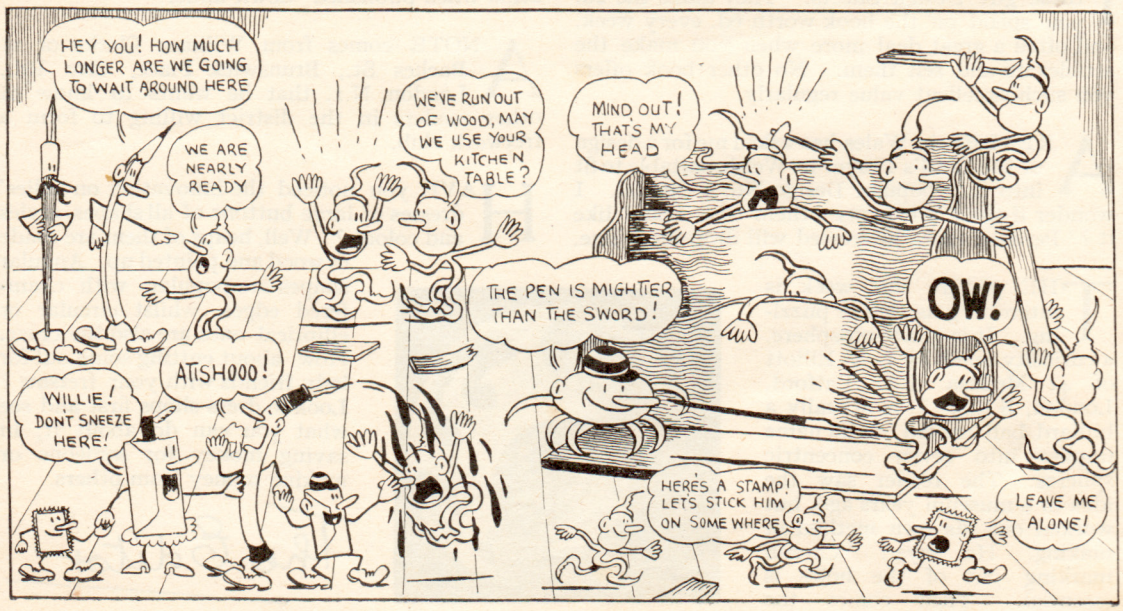
A pig is said to be the most curious of all animals. Why ?
Because he must be killed before he can be cured.

Answer to the Coin Trick

Here is how the moves are made in the coin trick.

Move 2 and 3 to 9 and 10
" 5 " 6 " 2 " 3
" 8 " 9 " 5 " 6
" 1 " 2 " 8 " 9

THE IMPIES BUILD A STATIONERY RACK


HEY YOU! HOW MUCH LONGER ARE WE GOING TO WAIT AROUND HERE
WE ARE NEARLY READY
WE'VE RUN OUT OF WOOD, MAY WE USE YOUR KITCHEN TABLE?
MIND OUT! THATS MY HEAD
THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD!
OW!
ATTISHOOO!
WILLIE! DONT SNEEZE HERE!
HERES A STAMP! LETS STICK HIM ON SOME WHERE
LEAVE ME ALONE!

The FRETWORKER

The "FAIRY" CLOCK

Made from patterns on Design Sheet No. 2059.

WE provide an opportunity, this week, of showing what fretworkers really can do, and at the same time, offering an article which will undoubtedly prove exceedingly popular. Standing out in strong relief against the usual plain modern effects, the fairy clock, illustrated, is one of the daintiest and nicest type of fretwork ever published.

Its very originality, as well as its usefulness, ensures its popularity, whilst the cheapness with which it can be made up, allows it to be used either as a gift or as a suitable selling line.

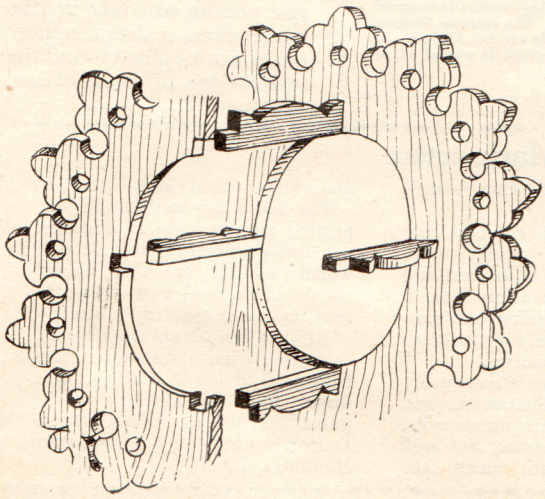
A Dainty Subject

The illustration given, hardly does justice to the finished article, because, instead of being flat, as would appear in the picture, it is an outstanding piece of work projecting 2ins. from the back to front. The fairy with the flower is on the back piece only, whilst the snowdrops are on the second piece forming the overhang of the front.

The two parts are held together by cross strips which are halved in appropriate places. These strips also provide additional strength, so the whole thing is perfectly rigid if properly put together.

The Construction

The whole of the work, is of course, done with a fretsaw, and although it may appear intricate at first, there is really nothing that the experienced worker cannot undertake. Most of it is open work and the greatest care is in seeing that some of the thin projections do not break off. This should not happen in the 3/16in. wood used, particularly as a good quality plywood is recommended for the parts concerned.



The finished clock can be stained down and even coloured black. Some artists with the brush may get a more striking effect by using colour paints, and some may even use a different class of wood for the front to make it stand out from the back.

The method of construction should be understood first, and it must be realised that the whole thing fits together by a series of joints in crossing pieces. Each of these is lettered on the part concerned and each must be tested out with its appropriate companion part to see a good fit is made. There are two cross pieces which halve into the rocker portion of the clock at J and C, whilst two further ones fit across above and below the snowdrops at A and B.

The Framework

The carcase of the clock is also surrounded by four other crossing strips which are fixed in at E, F, G, and H respectively. Further to bind it the two crossing pieces at C and J are held by a separate strap which in turn halves in at D and K.

All these halvings must be done carefully. The actual small piece of the strip is thin and apt to be delicate. The halvings cut in them at A, C, D, J, K, etc., must be made on the small side because they should fit quite tightly when pressed over the corresponding parts of the joints.

The same applies to the little projecting piece of E and H. These must bed against the flat surface of the back and front and yet fit tightly to the actual lettered halving joints.

Test and Clean

Remember, too, that these parts cannot be tested until the pattern remains have been glasspapered off. If you test them with the paper on and get a good fit, it will be a bad fit after the part has been cleaned.

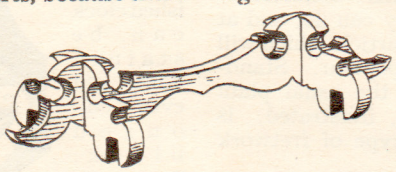
In cleaning, remember, to keep the wood flat to the bench and the glasspaper flat upon it.

Do not use the glasspaper in your fingers, but upon a proper block of wood. Using it in your fingers you will most probably round off one of the projecting tenons and so ruin the joint.

The same remarks, of course, apply to the cleaning of the whole of the work. Put the glasspaper on a wide solid piece of wood and keep it flat over the work.

Be careful that the edge of the glasspaper does not catch any of the projecting parts, because there is a likelihood of damage to some of the more delicate ones if the worker is not careful.

The cutting is straightforward, but in view of the various projections round the main parts, it will be advisable to leave the outline of the back and front until last. Get out the interior work first and then go round the outline carefully.



How the main lower cross support is built.

Notice the number of little circles round the clock; a good plan is to cut these with a brace bit. The larger ones are ¼in. in diameter and the smaller ones ⅛in. in diameter. If this is done, remember to find the centre of the circle and make a pencil point there in order to put the bit down in its proper place for cutting.

Decreasing Circles

These circles, it will be noted, gradually get smaller as they climb upwards towards the snowdrops, and these smaller circles must, of course, be cut with a fretsaw.

You cannot take too much pains in the cutting of these two main parts, for it is upon these that the glance upon the finished article first rests. If the circles are not cut true, the part will look ugly, or if the snowdrop petals are not the same shape, they will throw the whole out rather badly. The "fairy" figure on the back, too, must be cut with graceful curves.

Use Good Blades

Do not, therefore, be in too much of a hurry in cutting, but take pains and use a fine Hobbies fretsaw blade (No. o) throughout. If you use a coarse blade, or force it through the wood too fast, you will find, not only a heavy line, but also a lot of burr on the back of the wood which will make more work in cleaning up with the glasspaper.

All parts should be cut, cleaned up and tested before the whole thing is finally glued together. Cut and test each strip in its proper place and then make some pencil mark upon it to ensure it going back in the same position when finally putting together.

Besides the back and front and the crossing strips, there are two fancy overlays forming a decorative piece to hide where the strips would otherwise show round the clock.

The two necessary patterns for these are shown, but as one of them will be at the back of the clock, there is really no need to cut the scalloped edge. It can be a plain circle if preferred.

The strips E to H should go round the clock, but must not, of course, project beyond the surface of the back and front or this circular overlay will not fit flat. Moreover, all the strips must be the same length at the inner angle or they will not keep the back and front the same distance all through. This is important and details are shown which explain the whole thing clearly.

Placing the Movement

When all parts are completed, each is glued carefully to its proper position, and the whole thing left for the glue to set. The great point is to get the crossing strips firmly and rigidly in place; the circular overlays are glued on afterwards

The clock movement which is supplied for this fits through the circular opening of overlays on back and front. The back metal plate is taken off, the barrel is pushed through from front, the plate being put in place again and nuts turned on to their proper pins.

The flat surface of the strips E to H comes inwards towards this barrel, and if one prefers to cover up the metal circular drum, veneer paper can be glued round the inside edge of these strips.

MATERIALS SUPPLIED

FRETWOOD—For making this design, a parcel of plywood and dark wood for overlay is supplied for only 1/- (post free 1/5). The suitable 30-hour Clock movements obtainable are No. 5502a 5/-, or No. 5506 3/6. Postage on complete parcel 6d. or on the Clocks alone, 4d.

Books on Marionettes

THOSE readers who are keen on marionettes and puppets will be interested in three books recently published on the subject. They are written by a gentleman who has been an expert for many years, and who knows probably more than anyone else on the subject. We have arranged, too, for his help on any question which readers may like to ask.

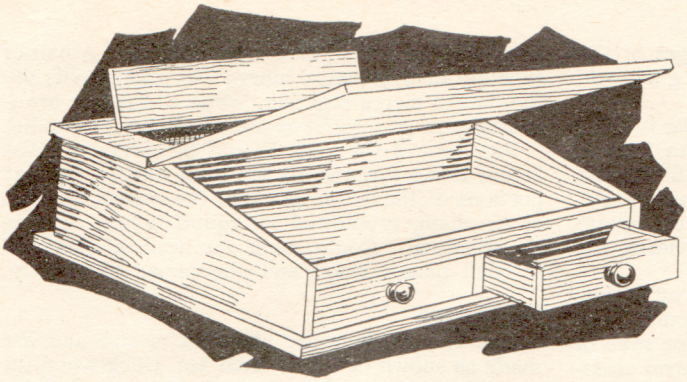
The books in question are "Everybody's Marionette Book" (3/6), "Bankside Book of Puppets" (3/6) and "Everybody's Theatre" (3/-).

Each deals with its subjects very simply, and very clearly, with numerous drawings of interest and help. The last mentioned book deals with the building and running of a toy theatre, the other two entirely with marionettes.

Making the figures is thoroughly explained, and illustrated, and there are also chapters on controls, lighting, effects, music, as well as addresses from which the materials required can be obtained.

The books are well bound and printed to stand up to constant use during reference, and are well worth adding to the library shelves of the reader who wants to take up this fascinating subject.

Readers can obtain these books, or further particulars about them from us, if 3d. is added for postage; direct from booksellers, or the publishers, Messrs. Wells Gardner, Darton & Co. Ltd., 8 Paternoster Buildings, E.C.4.



STUDENT'S DESK

HERE is a design for a useful desk, suitable for the student who wishes to keep papers and books clean and always ready at hand whenever required. Now that the summer will soon be coming along too, one of these little desks might be made up for using out-of-doors for doing the usual school 'prep.'

The desk has a hinged sloping top and beyond this a recess or space for keeping pens and pencils. When the sloping top is raised, a very useful compartment for keeping papers, etc., is exposed, and beneath this again are two drawers for note-books, writing papers, text books, etc.

Base and Sides

The base is a plain piece of $\frac{3}{8}$in. wood measuring 17$\frac{1}{2}$ins. by 12$\frac{1}{2}$ins. The next pieces to prepare will be the sides, cut to the sizes shown in Fig. 1. Mark out one side first direct on to the wood which will be $\frac{3}{8}$in. thick, and then after cutting it round use it as a template for marking out the second side.

Coat the long edges of the sides with glue and put them on the base $\frac{1}{4}$in. in from its edges. When the glue has hardened, run in three $\frac{3}{4}$in. screws to each side up through the base, taking care to countersink first so the heads of the screws lie flat.

The back is a plain rectangular piece 16$\frac{1}{2}$ins. long by 4$\frac{1}{2}$ins. wide by $\frac{3}{8}$in. thick. It fits between the two sides accurately before gluing up and running the three screws up through the base into this.

The two rails to fit and fix next, are those shown in Fig. 2, one rail divides the drawers and also supports the floor, while the other forms the front of the desk above the drawers. The former rail measures 11$\frac{5}{8}$ins. long by 1$\frac{1}{2}$ins. wide by $\frac{3}{8}$in. thick, and is simply glued and screwed to the base centrally.

Rails and Floor

The front rail is 16$\frac{1}{2}$ins. long by $\frac{3}{4}$ins. wide by $\frac{3}{8}$in. thick, and it rests on the top of the rail just

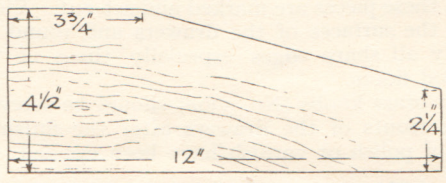


Fig. 1—Details and dimensions of the sides.

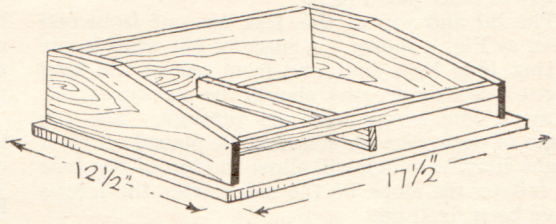


Fig. 2—The framework of the desk.

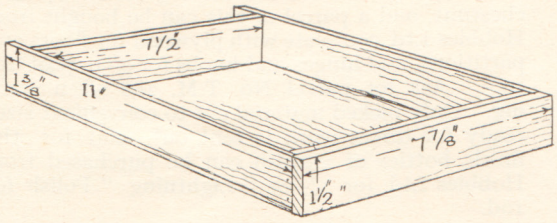


Fig. 6—One of the drawers completed.

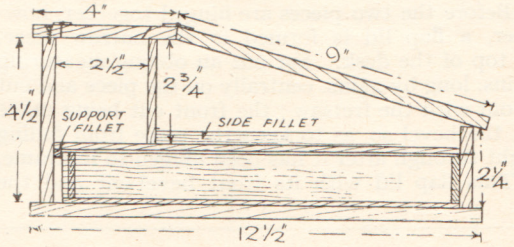


Fig. 4—A section showing position of parts.

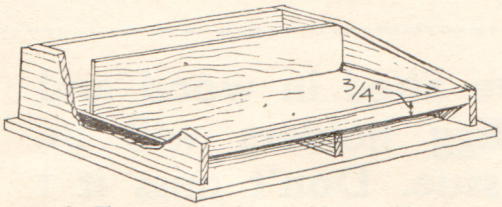


Fig. 3—The central partition and front rail in place.

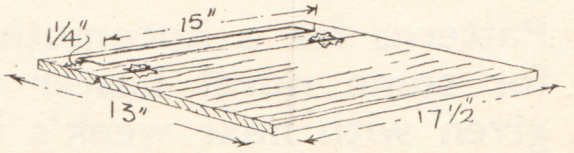


Fig. 5—The whole top is cut from one piece.

mentioned and flush with the front edges of the two sides of the desk. It is held by glue, and screws are put in through the sides.

To support the floor where it meets the back of the desk, a ¼in. square filler is glued and tacked on, this is clearly indicated in Fig. 4. This fillet must run the whole length of the desk inside, viz. 16¼ins., and it will be found that a ¼in. square notch must be cut away in the rail dividing the drawers to allow for it.

The floor is of 3/16in. thick plywood cut 16¼ins. by 11¼ins. The actual dimensions should, however, be taken direct from the article for sake of accuracy. Lay the floor upon the central cross-rail and upon the fillet at the back and drive in one or two flat-headed screws to hold it rigid. To give support to the floor, where it meets the sides of the desk, two side fillets, 8½ins. long and about ⅜ins. wide by ¼in. thick are glued and tacked on to the sides, these are shown in Fig.4

Partition and Top

The inside back partition is 3/16 in. plywood 16¼ins. long and 2¾ ins. wide, and is fixed at a distance of 2½ins. from the back of the desk. This should butt against the "side" fillets just mentioned. Some short lengths of odd wood about ¼ins. by ¼in. may be glued in the angles inside to hold it firmly in place (see Fig. 3).

The lid and top of the desk are cut from one piece as Fig. 5 shows. A piece of ⅝in. stuff is cut 17½ins. long by 13ins., and from one of the long edges a width of 4ins. should be measured off. Draw a line across and cut through. The cut edges of each piece should next be planed off to a slight chamfer which will allow the top of the desk to fall to the slope of the sides after the hinges have been fixed on.

The Flap Lid

Before the two pieces are hinged together, however, a flap lid is formed in the narrow piece, or top of the desk. Set out an oblong measuring 15ins. long by 2½ins. centrally on the piece and cut it out with the fretsaw; the front cut being made on the bevel so as to keep the piece from falling right through after it has been hinged to its frame.

This flap lid with its front bevel-cut and the hinges which hold it, is shown in Fig. 4. A pair of substantial ornamental hinges (No. 5379) holds the two larger pieces together, while a small or ornamental pair (No. 5308) answers well for the flap lid.

The top of the desk should be carefully fitted before being screwed to the back and to the flat portions of the sides. See that the correct amount of overhang is allowed all round before running the screws in. Countersink the heads of these, fill in with plastic wood and glasspaper off cleanly.

The Drawers

The two drawers are identical in size and are made as shown in Fig. 6 from ¼in. thick wood for the front, sides and back, with ⅛in. plywood for the floors. The fronts and backs measure 7½ins. long by 1⅜in. wide, and the sides 11ins. long by same width.

All pieces are butted together, the backs being fixed about a ¼in. or so in from the ends of the sides so the ⅛in. floors get a substantial hold when nailed on. Some odd pieces of wood again may be cut up and glued in the angles of the drawers to add to the strength. The drawers are strengthened and the appearance maintained by having ⅜in. thick fronts glued to the front of the "trays" already made up.

Accurate measurements should be taken of the actual openings before these pieces are marked and set out. Clean up all the surfaces of the drawers and round off slightly all sharp edges especially those of the plywood floors.

Two brass knobs (No. 5308) should be screwed to the fronts of the drawers after the finishing coats of polish or varnish have been applied.

Parcel of Wood

A suitable wood for this writing desk is spanish chestnut, and a parcel of this can be bought from Hobbies Ltd. complete with plywood for floors and partitions, and hinges and knobs for 9/- or post free 10/-. Ask for parcel No. T.M. 288 when writing. Only picked material cut to convenient sizes ready for direct work is sent out, and for the finish, bottles of varnish can be purchased from Hobbies Ltd. for 1/- or "Lightning" Polish for 10d.

WOOD REQUIRED

1 piece 17½ins. by 12½ins., ⅝in. thick.
1 piece 12ins. by 9ins., ⅝in. thick.
1 piece 16½ins. by 10ins., ⅝in. thick.
1 piece 17ins. by 13ins., ⅝in. thick.
1 piece 11ins. by 7ins., ¼in. thick.
1 piece 8ins. by 7ins. ¼in. thick.
1 piece 16½ins. by 11½ins. by ⅛in.
1 piece 16½ins. by 3ins. by ⅛in.
2 pieces, 11 ins. by 8ins. by ⅛in.
1 piece 16½in. by ¼in. by ¼in.
1 pair fancy hinges (No. 5379).
1 pair fancy hinges (No. 5308).
2 knobs (No. 5374).

MATERIAL SUPPLIED

For making this useful desk, a parcel of spanish chestnut is supplied by Hobbies Ltd., including plywood, brass and fancy hinges and knobs for 9/- complete or post free 10/-. Ask for parcel T.M. 288.

Patterns for a Locomotive Shed in wood and for some novel Easter Egg holders will be given with next week's issue. Don't miss it !

WINDOW DISPLAY STANDS

cut with the fretsaw in wood

NO doubt many readers who have shops of their own will welcome a few suggestions on how to make their own window dressing accessories. And those who are not so interested, may find that they can put their tools to a profitable use by making such fittings and selling them to shopkeepers in their district.

The value of a window to the shopkeeper depends entirely upon the way in which he dresses it. If it merely contains an ill arranged conglomeration of goods it will hardly be worth its rent. But a well-dressed window can be a most valuable "salesman." It is often found that a simple, but striking

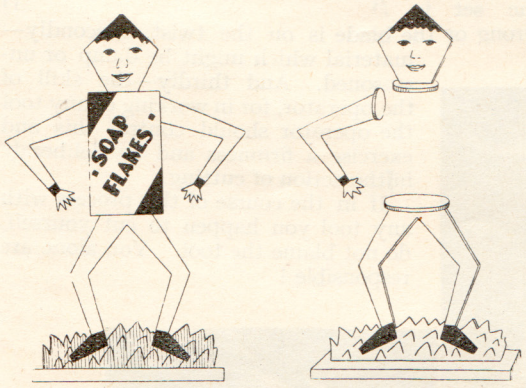


Fig. 2—A simple display figure complete and with the "body" omitted.

set is more effective than an elaborate display containing a superfluity of goods crowded one upon another.

For this reason there is a growing tendency amongst window dressers to favour the use of simple geometrically shaped blocks, cylinders and discs. These can be grouped together in striking futuristic designs, or built up to form pedestals and pyramids on which goods may be displayed.

Fig. 1 shows a group of the most useful shapes. These can be purchased from any firm specializing in shop window fittings; but readers will find it much cheaper to make their own from plywood. The blocks are, of course, hollow, and when fixing the sides into position, wooden fillets should be glued in the angles to give added strength to the joints. The easiest method of constructing the curved surfaces is to use sheets of stout cardboard over a wooden framework.

Novel Features

When completed, the blocks may be painted or covered with leatherette paper. Coloured crêpe paper, too, may be employed to cover them temporarily when setting out a window in a special colour scheme.

When setting out a window it is always desirable to introduce some novel feature which will attract the attention of passers by.

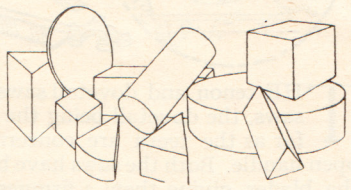


Fig. 1—Suggested shapes to use.

The illustrations shown in Figs. 2 and 3 give some easily made display stands which possess the quality of novelty, and are suitable for holding all kinds of boxed and canned goods. It will be seen that each is made to represent a figure. The legs are cut out from plywood with a fretsaw, and fixed to a wooden base.

At the waist is fixed a small platform on which the commodities to be displayed may be placed to form the body of the figure. The head is similarly prepared to rest on the top of the body. The arms are fixed in position with a touch of liquid glue, or a small strip of adhesive tape.

The stands should be painted in bright attractive colours, and several made to hold various sizes of goods. It will be seen that the stands can be used for round tins and bottles as well as for rectangular containers; and with the exercise of a little ingenuity the figures may be grouped so as to obtain a variety of amusing effects.

The commodity forming the "body" of the figure can easily be changed when desired, and the backs of the other component parts can be painted to give an alternative colouring.

Besides show stands and brackets, the fretworker can also construct a variety of signs and announcement boards. Lettering which is cut out in fretwood and fixed on a plywood panel, stands out in bold relief and strikes the eye much more quickly than ordinary printing.

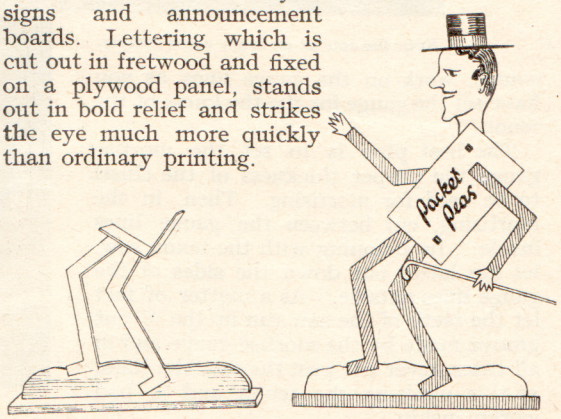
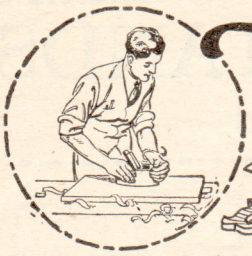
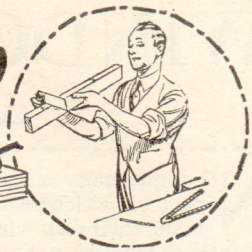


Fig. 3—Another attractive stand made up.

Attractive boards may be constructed of plywood surrounded with fancy moulding or beading; and besides being used to announce current prices, etc. such boards may be employed to display advertising slogans.



Tools and how to use them

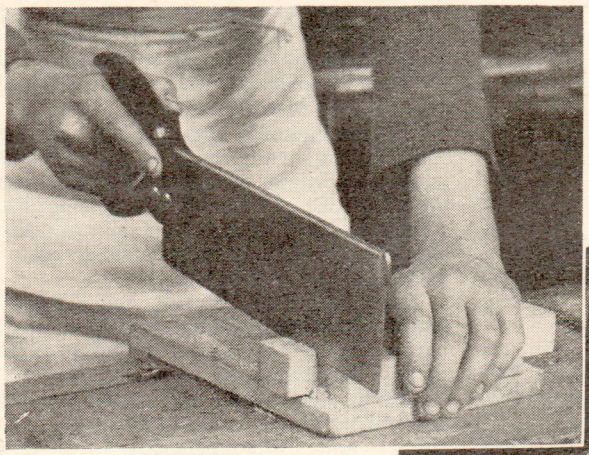


TENON AND DOVETAIL SAWS

The third of a helpful series for the amateur. The others appeared—Dec. 15th and Feb. 2nd.

THE tenon and dovetail saws are purely bench saws, the dovetail being the finer of the two so far as the teeth are concerned, it having an open handle. Both the saws have back to strengthen the blades, giving them a firmness and preventing "buckling." The set on the dovetail should be finer than the tenon. Whilst the tenon saw is not always adaptable for cutting the tenon (i.e. down the way of the grain in strong stuff), yet for cutting the shoulders of the tenon it is quite all right (i.e., across the grain).

For small tenoning use the tenon saw and, of course, work on the gauge lines, as you have set the gauge for the thickness of the tenon.



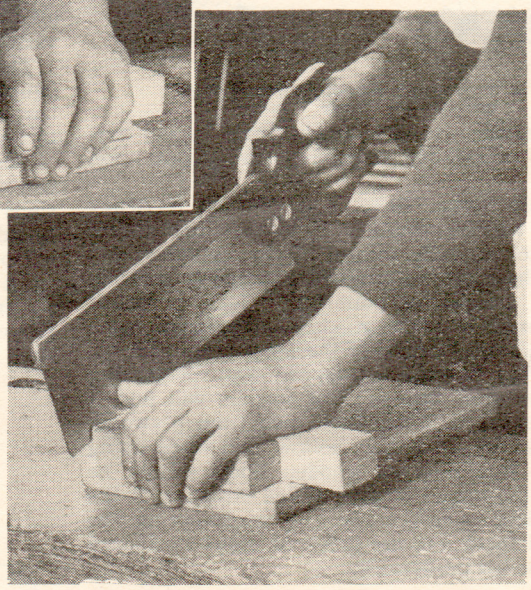
Keep the saw at an angle when cutting.

The best plan is to set the mortise gauge the proper thickness of the chisel to be used for mortising. Then, in the mortising, cut between the gauge lines inside. In tenoning with the tenon saw, let the latter cut down the sides of the gauge lines outside. As a matter of fact let the teeth of the saw run in the V cut groove made by the mortise gauge and in all cases never cut past the shoulder lines, as this weakens the tenon and is bad workmanship.

In marking the shoulders, the mark awl V end should be used. This gives a V cut shoulder line which not only helps the saw to guide it, but leaves a fine shoulder line for the rail to fit up to the style as the case may be.

If in the cutting the blade appears to run (especially in the tenoning) down the grain, it is due to two or three factors. First — the saw is not in condition, the set is wrong or the blade is on the twist. Secondly—material which might be damp or unseasoned. And thirdly—the skill of the operator, for in working of any tool the operator should control this and exercise a firmness and be deliberate in the action of cutting.

If in the course of this process with any tool you happen to cut yourself, do not blame the tool. You alone are responsible !



Commencing the cut, with the thumb as a guide.

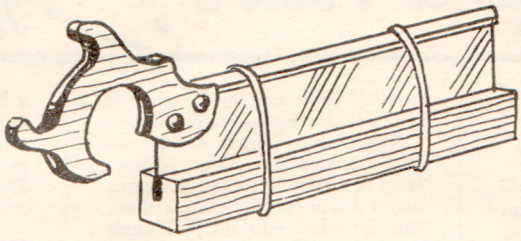
With the beginner there is always a certain amount of nervousness in the initial cutting, the writer has seen even the professional worker in the ripping down of strong stuff, show his weakness before using the Ripper saw to make a start with the tenon as he says to 'get going.'

Tenon Saws—*(continued)*

At the start of the cut let the thumb guide the blade and in the handling, grasp the handle firm and allow the index finger to be rigid.

The Dovetail

This is handled and used in precisely the same way as the tenon ; the friends of both saws are the Bench hook and Vice. The advantage of the dovetail is that it is light and easy to work and some good results can be got if care is taken. As the name implies it is for dovetailing and for ordinary drawer making. Its utility cannot be questioned where the blind dovetailed joint is used, and the many other joints also, such as open, secret, halved, slot, etc.



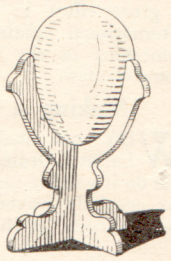
A simple wooden guard for the teeth.

In the actual dovetailing, if there is one question which has been debated on more often than any other in all kinds of " shops," it is that of which shall be made first, the dovetail pins or the holes ? It is largely immaterial, for the saw and chisels in their uses are the secrets of success and the skill of their handling if the actual marking out is correct. Whether you make the mortise hole first, or cut the tenon, it is the neatness and accuracy in marking out which brings success.

A Guard

When not in use, protect both your tenon and dovetail saws with a piece of wood the length of the blade and say about two inches wide into which a saw kerf has been cut on the length into which the teeth bed.

The CAMPER'S EGG-CUP

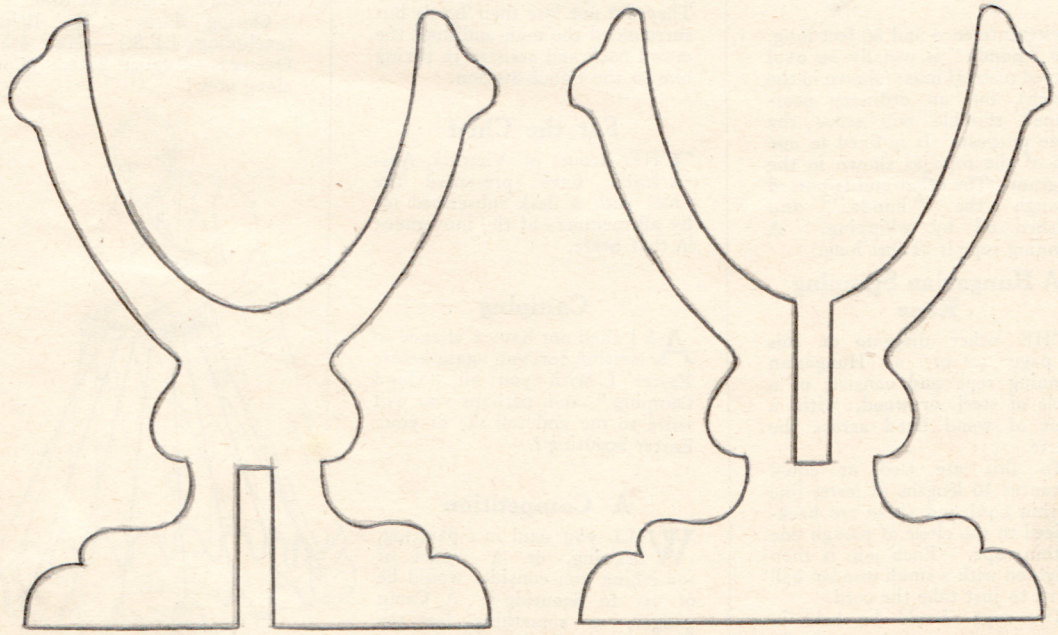


MOST readers who have been camping, whether as scouts or hikers, know the trouble of enjoying an egg without a proper egg-cup, and further the trouble of packing an ordinary egg-cup with its awkward shape and roomy bulk. The two patterns below, form a gadget to overcome this.

The two patterns shown are cut out in wood, and when halved together, form a satisfactory egg cup. Being in wood, they are light, and as they are quite flat, they take up little room in the rucksack. The parts shown should be cut out or traced off, and then pasted down to 3/16in. plywood. Cut the shapes marked, and be careful to get straight edges to the halving joint slots which run up the middle.

Clean up and fit together, glass-papering down if necessary so the two pieces slide into each other comparatively easily.

The finished work should be enamelled some off-white shade which will not show the dirt as actual white enamel would. Or, of course, it can be some striking vivid colour such as yellow or red. If you are doing some for a scout camp, paint each differently so the owners know which is which.

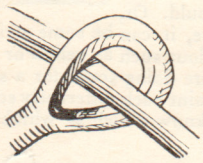


Stockholm Rover Moot

ABOUT twenty countries will be represented at the second world Rover Moot to be held near Stockholm, Sweden, from July 27th to Aug. 10th this year. The British contingent will be about 2,000 strong and a good deal of sight-seeing will be on the agenda. Rovers of all Nations should make a great effort to attend these international affairs and learn something of the other fellow's point of view.

Making a Lariat

WHY not make your own Lariat? Ordinary lead rope will do it you are unable to obtain the specially woven cotton rope usually used. It should be 1¼ins.



in circumference and 36 feet long. The "honda" is usually an oval shaped piece of brass (shown in the sketch), but an ordinary pear-shaped thimble will serve the same purpose. It is fixed to one end of the rope as shown in the diagram. The other end is passed through the "honda" and finished off by whipping. A spinning rope is 21 feet long.

A Hungarian Spinning Rope

THE other diagram on this page is of a Hungarian spinning rope and consists of a circle of steel or wood, with a strut of wood fixed across the centre.

To this are tied at equal distances 16 lengths of ferret line or thin cord and these are back-spliced to the circle of plough line or thin rope. Each join is then weighted with a small wooden ball bored to just take the cord.

The rope should be held in front of you and gradually revolved with two hands until a full circle is obtained vertically.

Measurements are as follows:—The Inner Circle 12ins. diam; Strut to Centre of Same 1in. diam.; Ferret line or cord 2ft. 9ins.; allow 3ins. for joins (total 3ft.); Plough line or rope 22ft.; Wooden Balls 1in. diam.

The cost of the one illustrated was three shillings. Our Hungarian brothers are experts at manipulating these.

Sacrificial Blood

THE British Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service reports that during the Chief's recent illness a Ranger and a Rover successfully gave their blood. A fine act worthy of our Movement.

Nigerian Pluck

CONGRATULATIONS to the Three Troops of Nigerian Boy Scouts who have been awarded the Medal of Merit for their pluck and discipline in preventing an infuriated crowd from killing a would-be assassin. They did not lose their heads but surrounded the man and kept the crowd back and assisted in taking him to the Police Station.

For the Chief

THE Scouts of Victoria, Australia have presented the Chief with a desk subscribed for by all members of the movement in that State.

Camping

AS I shall not have a chance of writing for you again before Easter I wish you all "Good Camping" and, perhaps you will write to me and tell me of your Easter Scouting?

A Competition

WILL you send in a painting, drawing, or a model of something you consider would be of use to Scouting? A Camp gadget, or something for the Troop room. In fact, anything of a Scouty nature. Entries will be adjudged on their originality, usefulness and neatness. The competition is open to all readers of Hobbies Weekly, but if you are a Scout give the name of your Troop.

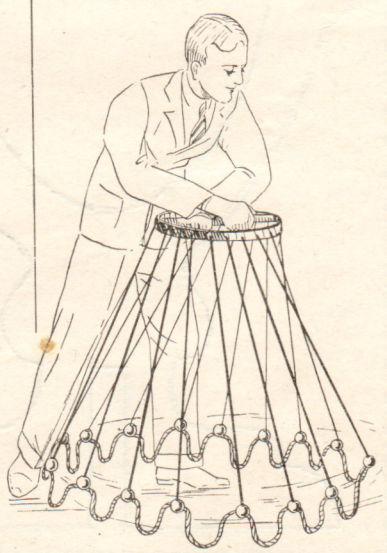
A Thought on Scout Law No. 2

"God Save Our Gracious King
Long Live the King!"

Not more than one shilling expenditure on any model is allowed, and a great number of entries will induce us to give more prizes. An excellent specimen of a suitable gadget is illustrated and outlined on page 9. See if you can beat it! The first prize for Gt. Britain will be goods to the value of 10/- selected from Hobbies Catalogue by the winner.

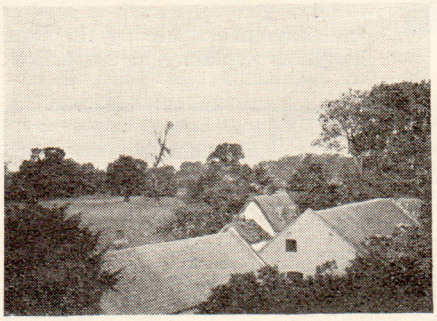
For overseas entrants a copy of Kephart's "Camping and Woodcraft" valued at 10/6.

Closing dates: Gt. Britain (excluding I.F.S.) — May 4th; Overseas—August 24th. Come along now!

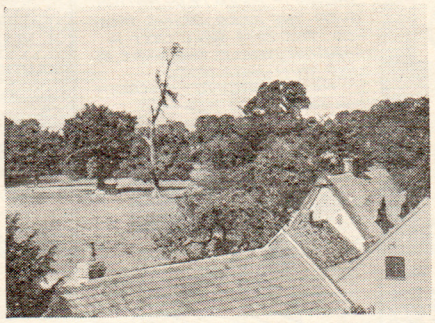


The Question of FOCAL LENGTH

THERE are many occasions when one cannot get sufficiently near to an object to obtain a reasonable size of image on the film when using the ordinary short focus lens, such as at a cricket or football match, a castle on a hill, a view across a river, etc., and it is then that a long focus lens (or more correctly a lens of greater focal length) is a boon.



This view was taken with a 3in. lens



and this with a 5in. lens.

Lenses are made in a variety of lengths of focus—that is the distance at which the lens will bring objects at infinity into sharp definition on the surface of the film.

There is a limit to the shortness of focus according to the size of the film upon which the picture is to be taken. This will vary according to the type of lens, but should one of too short a focal length be used upon a large plate, the latter will not be "covered" correctly, the centre may be in good definition but the corners and edges will be fuzzy.

The tendency of recent years has been to fit a lens of short focal length in order to make cameras as compact as possible, but the use of a short focus lens has disadvantages especially in landscape work. Consequently telephoto lenses have been evolved to fit interchangeably with the ordinary lenses.

The actual distance at which a telephoto lens functions is about half its nominal focal length so that a camera with a 4½in. lens can have a telephoto lens of 9ins. used upon it, although a second focussing scale will probably have to be fitted.

The larger the focal length of a lens the larger the image. A 9in. lens will give one twice in linear measurement of a 4½in.

Other types of very useful lenses are the old Zeiss Protar and the Ross Combinable. These lenses are so designed that either the combined lenses or the front or back component can be used, e.g., a 6½in. lens working at F 6. 3 will have the single component of 11½in. working at F 12.5.

The quality of picture given by the latter is superb and does not seem to have been surpassed by any modern anastigmat or telephoto, and since they can now be bought for about a fifth their original cost it is surprising more of them are not used, especially now that such fast plates and films counterbalance the comparatively small aperture.

The illustrations show the comparative size of image given by lenses 3in, (75 mm.), 5in., 6½in., 9in. and 11½in. respectively.

With a 6½in. lens—larger still

as taken with a 9in. lens.

Photography—The Focal Length—(*continued*)

Besides the actual size of image the perspective varies. Everyone is familiar with the picture of a person lying down with feet towards the camera and how the picture taken with an ordinary pocket camera will show enormous feet out of all proportion to the original as seen by the eye. If a long focus lens is used this distorted perspective does not occur.

In landscape work as well the short focus lens makes the middle-distance appear to be very much further away than it really is, whilst the distance is annihilated.

A long focus lens is the best to use for such work, so if you get the opportunity to purchase a camera with a combinable or telephoto lens do not miss the chance.

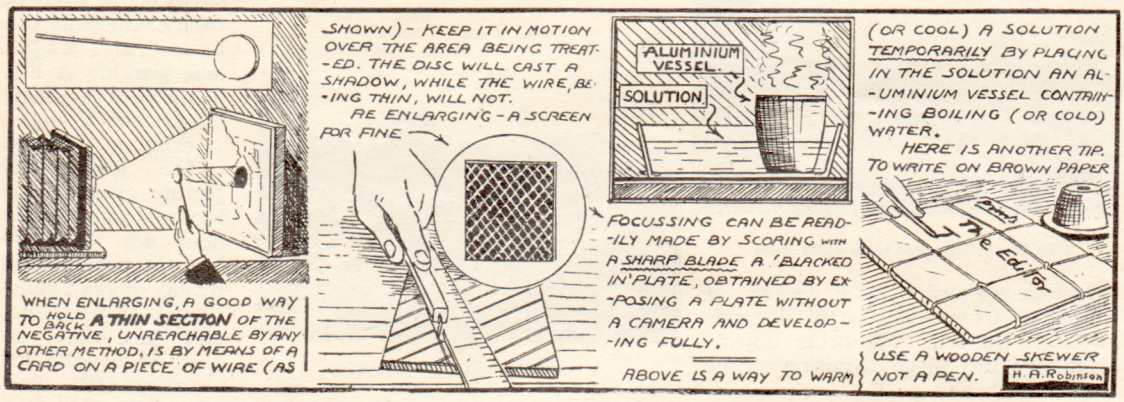
Users of reflex cameras of course are in the happy position of being able to use a variety of lenses at will without the difficulty of having extra scales fitted as they actually see the image on the ground glass screen right up to the moment of releasing the shutter.

Taken with an 11½ins. lens.

Quite a number of serious photographers never use a short focus lens unless compelled to do so, such as a close up view of a building in a street, or an interior subject.

The pictures illustrating this article were all taken from an attic window with lenses of various focal length, and the negatives all enlarged to the same degree (i.e. without altering the enlarger). The 11½in. picture was taken in the winter, but is sufficiently clear to show the great magnification of the tree.

They give an excellent idea of the difference made by the focal length as explained in the article.


WHEN ENLARGING, A GOOD WAY TO HOLD BACK A THIN SECTION OF THE NEGATIVE, UNREACHABLE BY ANY OTHER METHOD, IS BY MEANS OF A CARD ON A PIECE OF WIRE (AS SHOWN) - KEEP IT IN MOTION OVER THE AREA BEING TREATED. THE DISC WILL CAST A SHADOW, WHILE THE WIRE, BEING THIN, WILL NOT.
BE ENLARGING - A SCREEN FOR FINE
ALUMINIUM VESSEL.
SOLUTION
FOCUSSING CAN BE READILY MADE BY SCORING WITH A SHARP BLADE A 'BLACKED IN' PLATE, OBTAINED BY EXPOSING A PLATE WITHOUT A CAMERA AND DEVELOPING FULLY.
ABOVE IS A WAY TO WARM (OR COOL) A SOLUTION TEMPORARILY BY PLACING IN THE SOLUTION AN ALUMINIUM VESSEL CONTAINING BOILING (OR COLD) WATER.
HERE IS ANOTHER TIP. TO WRITE ON BROWN PAPER
The Editor
USE A WOODEN SKEWER NOT A PEN.
H. A. Robinson

Here is a chance to make your camera pay! Each month Hobbies Weekly are presenting cash prizes for the best print submitted in the subject provided. The winning efforts will be reproduced in these pages with remarks of the judges on the entries generally.

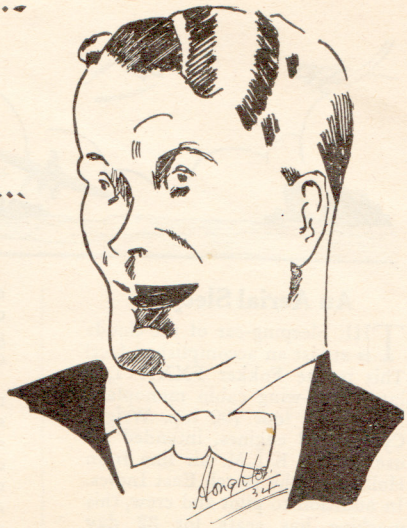
SUBJECT for APRIL—CHUMS

You will probably have a subject already taken that you can enter for this competition. If not, there is plenty of time to get a good picture of your chum. Give him a nice plain background against which he will show up well, and, if you want him to look really natural, take him at some ordinary occupation. Focus sharply on his face—if the other parts of the picture are slightly blurred, so much the better. Human beings or animals can be counted, and don't forget to look for likely subjects during the Easter holidays!

PRIZES **In the Open Section a 1st Prize of £1 and a 2nd Prize of 10/-. In the Junior Section the 1st Prize is 12/6 and the 2nd Prize 7/6.**

RULES:—*The subject must have been taken by the competitor, but the finishing may be done by a professional. Prints of any size may be entered and can be mounted or unmounted. Each print must bear the competitor's full name and address, and his age if under 16 years. No competitor to take more than one prize during the season. If a stamped addressed envelope is sent with the entries every endeavour will be made to return them. Entries should be addressed "Amateur Photographic Competition"; Hobbies Weekly, Dereham, Norfolk, and must arrive not later than April 30th. The Editor reserves the right to publish any entries he wishes in Hobbies Weekly. All competitors under 16 years of age will be adjudged in the Junior Section.*

HINTS ON SKETCHING



How to obtain expression

THE human features are capable of dozens of changes. We do not realise, really, how much they do change until we take up Sketching as a Hobby. Surprise, anger, pleasure, contentment, laughter, tears. All should be within the scope of the fellow who wishes to draw well.

It would be as well to spend quite a while in endeavouring to master the different effects in this matter of expression. Just think ; when your friend tells you some strange fact, or some almost unbelievable tale, what happens, you raise your eyebrows, your eyes widen, wrinkles appear in your brow. Again, when anyone is angry, watch their eyebrows lower, their eyes narrow, and so on.

With thought and practice you will find such expressions will come readily to your mind. In a very simple form appear three expressions in the illustrations on this page. Fig. 1 shows contentment or pleasure, No. 2 anger or reserve, No. 3 unbelief or '*hauteur*.' Now let us apply these simple expressions to more finished sketches.

Take Fig. 1 for instance. The lines and dots of contentment seem to suggest an old farmer—an old Irish farmer, with a white beard and kindly eyes, and a funny sort of billycock hat, with rounded lips and ' sidewinders.'

Simple shading brings out the contours of the face and completes a pleasing little sketch well within your scope. Fig. 2 seems to suggest something entirely different. As we proceed the sketch turns into one of those studious young men, with a little toothbrush moustache, and a queer taste in hats. He seems to have a great weight on his mind. Fig. 6, might suggest a flapper, and here she is. Study Fig. 6, see how the effect is obtained with the absolute minimum of lines, and yet in its way it is a complete study.

Sketching is mainly a matter of close observation and study. Notice in Fig. 4, how the cheekbone of the old farmer is suggested by leaving that part white and shading down the side of the nose and cheek. Also the lower lip. The small piece of shading that suggests a full lip and rounded chin. And the old hat jammed down close to the ears.

Small points of this nature turn your drawing from an amateurish effort into something worth while. And yet as we have previously found, good effects can be attained with an economy of lines.

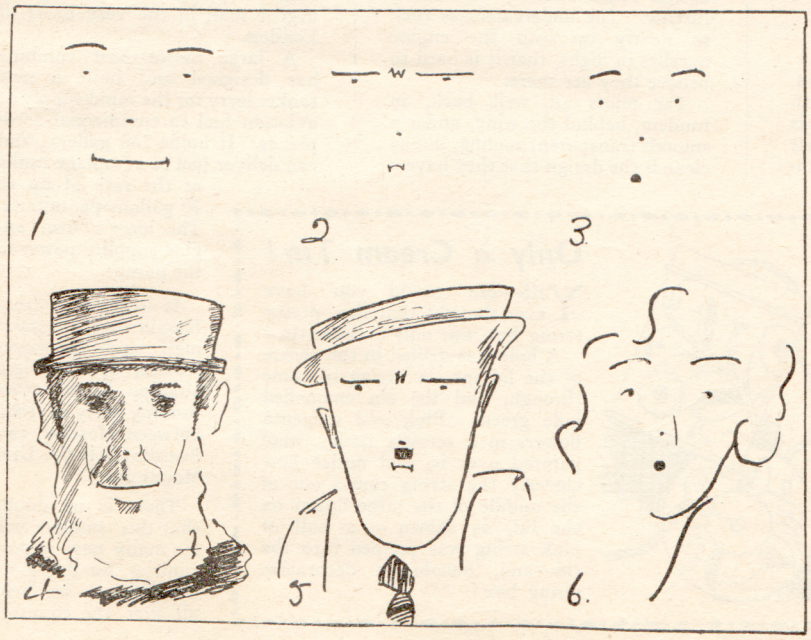
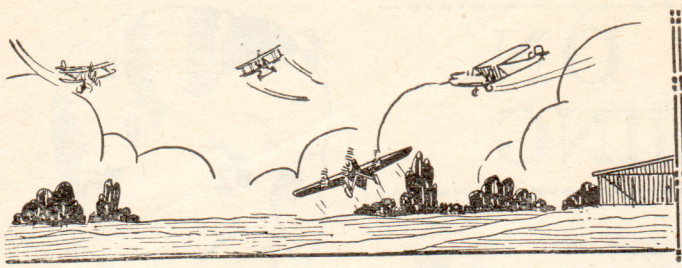


Fig. 5, is severe and therefore calls for severe treatment as far as drawing is concerned. No softening lines must creep into drawings of this nature—no softening of cheeks or lips. A firm chin and wide brow emphasize the severeness.

Fig. 6 has been discussed before, but your special attention is directed to this. From it you will see there is no need to spend a lot of time and effort in intricate shading. Always keep your drawings simple yet effective.

As you proceed such things will come naturally to your pen. You will learn where to place a few simple lines to the best effect, and again where to shade. Practice on the right lines is the main, in fact, the only thing.



Flying Notes & News

An Aerial Sleeper

THE Sleeping-car of the clouds is at last an accomplished fact! This is the Fokker FXXXVI, a large high-wing cabin monoplane fitted with four 700 h.p. Wright Cyclone F2 engines, intended for use on the K.L.M. air line from Holland to the Dutch East Indies. In addition to pilot and crew, this machine has seats for 32 day passengers, and these seats are convertible into 16 sleeping berths when used on night runs, giving ample room for the comfort of the passengers.

The four engines are mounted on the wing, two each side, and are fitted with three-blade controllable-pitch airscrews.

The top speed is about 187 m.p.h. and the cruising speed is 172 m.p.h. which is far in advance of most big passenger machines. She will climb to 6,000 feet in just over 9 minutes, and will maintain a height of 3,000 feet with only two engines on one side running, thus providing an exceptional margin of safety.

The total weight loaded is about 32,000 lbs.

The Airspeed Viceroy

THE latest product of Messrs. Airspeed Ltd., of Portsmouth is the "Viceroy." The machine is built on traditional Airspeed lines and bears a strong family resemblance to the now famous "Courrier" and "Envoy."

It is a clean-lined lowering cantilever monoplane, fitted with two 315 h.p. Siddeley "Cheetah VI" engines, with wooden wings and a wooden semi-monocoque fuselage. It has, of course, a retractable undercarriage.

In its present form it has been built for the Australia Race, and carries a 270 gallon tank for that purpose. Future commercial models, however, will accommodate six or eight passengers in comfort, together with lavatory and luggage compartment.

The estimated top speed is 210 m.p.h. at 7,000 feet, the cruising speed 190 m.p.h., and the landing speed about 67 m.p.h. The rate of climb is 1,100 ft. per min., and the range 1,400 miles or eight hours. As a commercial machine the disposable load will be some 2,500 lbs.

Some general dimensions are :

Span 52ft. 4ins.
Length 34ft. 6ins.
Height 9ft. 6ins.
Mean chord of wing 6ft. 9ins.

The total wing area is 299 square feet.

The De Haviland 'Comet'

ONE of the most sensational products that the Aircraft Industry turned out for the race to Australia was the D.H. 'Comet.'

This is not only one of the most efficient aeroplanes of modern times, but a thing of sheer beauty to look at.

Streamlining and cleanness of design could scarcely be carried further. The undercarriages tuck so neatly up into the engine nacelles in flight, that it is hard to believe they are there.

The pilots sit well back, in tandem, behind the wing, under a smooth transparent roofing, but so clean is the design that they have a very reasonable view in all directions.

In plan view the wing has a very sharp taper, the wing tips coming almost to a point. Three spars instead of two are found most efficient for this type of construction. The machine is built of wood, and the wings are covered with fabric.

Two special 'Gipsy Six' engines of 230 h.p. are fitted.

Here are the chief characteristics :

Span 44 feet.
Length 29 feet.
Height 9 feet.
Wing Area 212.5 sq. ft.
Wing Loading 24.7 lbs. per sq. ft. (full load).
Power loading 11.8 lbs. per h.p.
All-up weight 5,250 lbs.

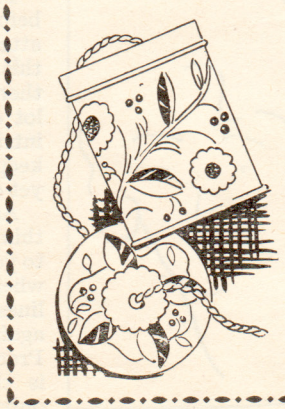
News from all Parts

THE Post Office have been experimenting with an Autogiro at the London G.P.O. with the idea of building a landing roof there for these machines. Autogiros would act as 'feeders' to and from the big Mail Planes at Croydon, dropping and picking up urgent mail in the very heart of London.

A large motor-spirit combine has designed and built a new tanker lorry for the rapid supply of aviation fuel to commercial aeroplanes. It holds 750 gallons, and can deliver fuel to aeroplane tanks at the rate of up to 70 gallons per minute. The lorry's own engine supplies power to the pumps.

It is reported from Russia that a regular mail and passenger service, by semi-rigid airship, is to start running early in 1935 between Moscow and Sverdlovsk in the Ural Mountains.

There is no doubt that this summer will see many new opportunities for flying at meetings to be held all over the country.

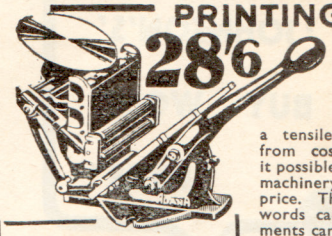


Only a Cream Tin !

YES—but would you have ever thought that this pretty string box *was* only a cream tin ?

A hole was drilled in the centre of the lid for the string to come through, and the tin enamelled jade green. Pink and magenta flowers in a scrawly design were painted over it, and notice how cleverly the string comes out of the middle of the large flower on the lid, as shown — a ball of pink string was popped into the tin—and, behold, a decorative string box !

THE NEW ADANA HIGH-SPEED AUTOMATIC PRINTING MACHINE



28/6

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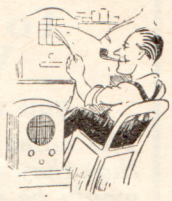
There was a wireless-mechanic named Tate
With his soldering jobs—never late !
He worked hard—yet had leisure—
He'd discovered a treasure—
Using FLUXITE kept HIS work 'up-to-date.'



See that FLUXITE is always by you—in the house—garage—workshop—anywhere where simple speedy soldering is needed. Used for 30 years in Government Works and by the leading Engineers and Manufacturers.
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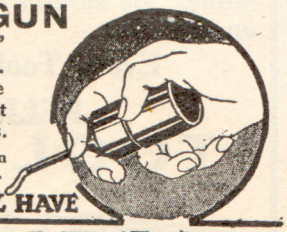

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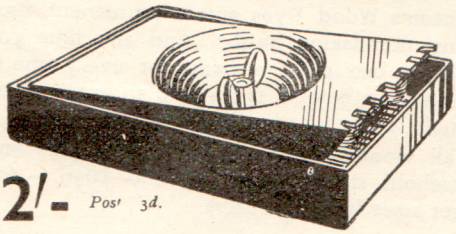

2/- *Post 3d.*

This fine tool is made from steel. It can be easily fitted to the ordinary Bench, only requiring a rectangular recess ¾in. deep. When fixed it is perfectly flush with the bench. By operating the wing nut on top the Stop is raised or lowered to suit any thickness of work.

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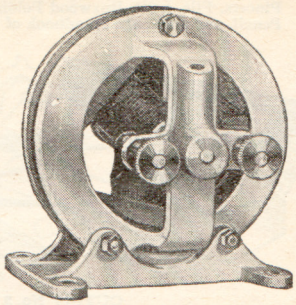

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Developes great power for extraordinary low current consumption (about .25 amps.)—an ordinary 4-volt dry battery will run it for some hours. Maximum voltage 8 volts. Suitable for continuous work under full load.

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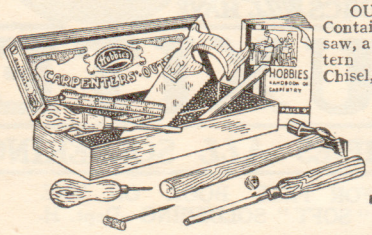

OUTFIT No. 1
Contains a 10in. Handsaw, a Warrington pattern Hammer, ½-in. Chisel, Screwdriver, 2ft. Folding Rule, Bradawl, Gimlet, a Carpenter's Pencil and a 64-page Handbook.

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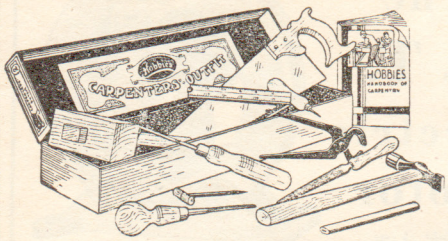
OUTFIT No. 2
Contains a 16in. Handsaw, a Warrington pattern Hammer, Screwdriver, ½-in. Chisel, Mallet, Bradawl, Gimlet, Pincers, File, a 2ft. Boxwood Folding Rule, Carpenter's Pencil, and a 64-page Handbook of things to make.



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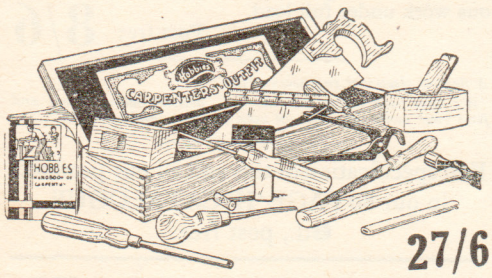
OUTFIT No. 3
Contains an 18in. Handsaw, a Mallet, smoothing Plane, a Warrington pattern Hammer, ½-in. Chisel, ½-in. Gouge, a Screwdriver, Pincers, a File, a Square, 2ft. Boxwood Folding Rule, Gimlet, Bradawl, Carpenter's Pencil, and a 64-page Handbook of things to make.



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A GOOD job of work needs a real good stain, and it's Johnson's Wood Dyes for a quality finish. Made from the purest oil and spirit — there's no water to warp the wood or raise the grain — no clogging on the surface. The colour floats right in at one sweep of the brush, and dries quickly. A job coloured with Johnson's Wood Dyes need not be smoothed again after staining.

Johnson's Wood Dyes give a permanent, non-fading, non-flaking finish. And any time you wish you can match a shade, for every one of the nineteen colours is made to an exact, tested formula, and never varies in tone or results.

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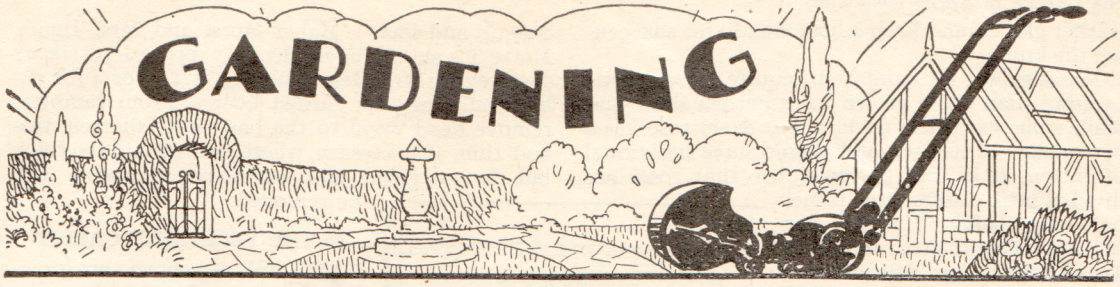
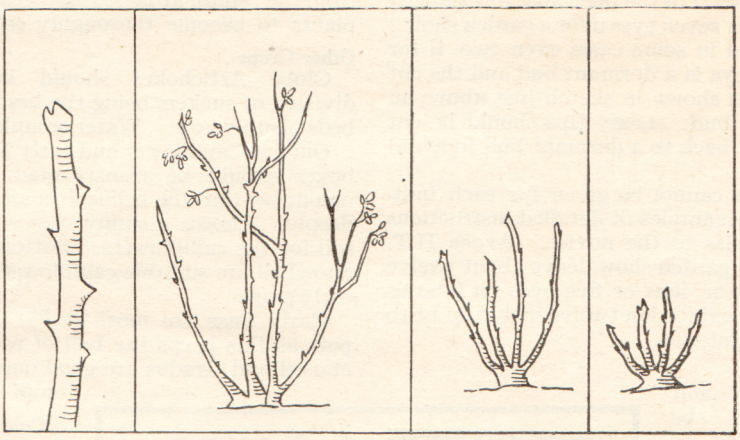


WORK IN APRIL

WALLFLOWERS, Hyacinths, Polyanthuses, Forget-me-nots and all the glory of flowering shrubs such as Lilacs, Berberis and the Flowering Crabs and Cherries make the garden an inspiration for poets in April. In the Rock Garden, Mossy Saxifrages vie with Arabis and Aubretias.

In very early districts some of these may be past their best and should be cut back hard to encourage new growth for the coming season. If this is neglected, straggly untidy growth is the result and poor unsightly patches will appear in the middle of even the best clumps of Alpines. At this season a top dressing of gritty soil or even a layer of gravel will benefit some plants from which the soil has been washed away by the winter rains.

In the Herbaceous Border, staking should be done and division of Autumn flowering plants such as Phloxes and Helianthus (the perennial sunflowers) should be attended to, if not already done in March. Divide the roots with a sharp knife and insert the cuttings with a piece of root attached in a moist place out-of-doors. Precious varieties may be increased by means of cuttings without roots ; these can also be struck out-of-doors.



How to make the cut. *An example of a vigorous rose.* *Pruned for Garden purpose.* *Pruned for Exhibition blooms.*

This is the time to prune evergreen hedges of Laurel, Yew, Holly, or Cupressus. Cut back any shoots which are projecting above the line of the hedge to a few inches below the top. These will in time grow just up to the line. The same thing should be done with side shoots.

If you want to cut back harder, all tips should be shortened, taking care to cut vigorous ones just a little shorter. In this way an even growth is ensured.

Plant Evergreens

Evergreens should be planted now in moist rainy weather. If placed in a windy situation protect with straw mats or sacking tacked on wooden supports and on no account allow to dry out till the fresh growth's appearance assures you that the shrubs have taken root. This applies to conifers as well as the hedging evergreens mentioned, Plant out sweet peas and sow half hardy and some hardy annuals.

Pruning Roses

This is the most important operation in the garden in April, though discretion has to be exercised. In cold districts where there is much late frost the pruning should be delayed till the first and second weeks in May. Only after the risk of cutting by frost is over should the knife be used. This is the best rule, no matter what the date.

If left to grow in a natural way, a rose bush would produce fine blooms on the first strong shoots in the second year, but in a year or two these shoots would grow weaker and gradually wither away and lower down fresh shoots would appear. This is Nature's way of pruning.

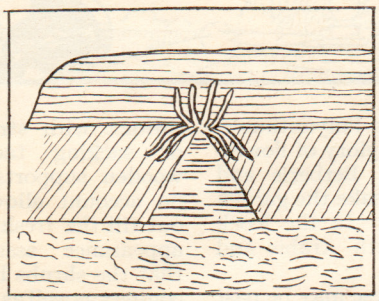
The gardener, by cutting away these weak growths, assists Nature and keeps his bushes vigorous by making way for the new shoots. So the first thing to do when pruning is to remove weak twiggy growths. Cut these right back to the base of the plant or to the old wood from which they spring, taking care to keep the bush a nice shape. Use a sharp knife or a pair of secateurs. Rolcut secateurs are the best though Aubert's are also popular.

How to Prune

The best gardeners prefer a knife, using the secateurs only for hard wood and for speedy work. Thick wood requires a saw. Protect the hands with

leather gloves, and keep a hone handy for sharpening the knife.

Roses grown for exhibition require more drastic pruning than those grown for a garden show and while some gardeners declare that every rose has a personality of its own and should have individual attention, it is well to remember that roses are divided into classes, the principal ones being Hybrid Perpetuals, Hybrid Teas and Teas. Teas being rather delicate, need slight pruning in a climate where frost performs the operation only too thoroughly, at times. Hybrid Perpetuals, being more vigorous than H.T.'s they need lighter pruning than Teas and H.T.'s for the stronger growing bush, the less pruning it needs, the weaker the bush, the more it should be cut.



A section showing asparagus planting.

Nearly all roses should be hard pruned on being planted except climbing Caroline Testout, Mde. Herriot and Frau Karl Druschki, which are apt to revert to the bush type if cut too hard. Having decided which are to be lightly pruned and which hard, the gardener should begin by cutting away weak twiggy branches.

This opens the heart of the bush and now shorten main stems to six or seven eyes if for a garden show ; to four or five and in some cases even two, if for exhibition. The eye is a dormant bud and the cut should be made as shown in sketch just above an outward pointing bud. Leafy tips should be cut away ; always cut back to a dormant bud to avoid damage by frost.

While directions cannot be given for each individual rose, a few examples of detailed instructions will not come amiss to the novice. Avoca H.T. (free growing) for garden show, leave about twelve inches in main stem, four or five eyes on laterals (side shoots). For exhibition twelve inches and two or three eyes on laterals.

Pruning Details

Los Angeles and Ophelia should be moderately pruned to six or seven eyes. Frau Karl and Caroline Testout should not be pruned hard at first. Both of these roses make fine bushes if allowed to grow freely or they will climb like J. B. Clark. All these three are useful for pegging down.

This is done by taking the longer shoots and attaching to pegs in the ground. This is a good way of growing Captain Hayward, Hugh Dickson, M. I. Perriere, Seagull and Pax. Mabel Morse and Mrs. Henry Morse T's should be moderately pruned to six or seven eyes ; Mrs. Henry Bowles H.T. 3 or 4 for exhibition, 6 or 7 for garden beds. From ramblers remove dead wood to the base, and shorten tips and thin, if necessary, where growths are too thick but do not prune hard or flowering shoots will be removed.

IN THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

THOSE of you who are growing vegetables on the rotation plan suggested in February, will now be ready to proceed with the programme. If Asparagus beds were made in the autumn or in March, now is the time to plant.

The correct way to plant is to form ridges in the beds five or six inches lower than the actual surface of bed. The plants are set with some of the roots on one side of the ridge, some on the other, and the soil levelled. This ensures that the roots shall not dry out, a thing very injurious to asparagus. When planting do not allow the roots to become dry. Purchase one year old plants ; these are better than older crowns. Do not cut from the bed for at least three years, this allows the plants to become thoroughly established.

Other Crops

Globe Artichokes should be divided, root division or suckers being the best method and new beds planted now. Water or mulch in dry weather.

Onions, Cauliflower and early Peas brought on in boxes should be transplanted. When planting onions see that the bed is firm and do not plant too deeply. Choose a sunny spot with a good loamy soil for the cauliflowers. Sutton's First Crop and Snowball are suitable cauliflowers to plant for this early crop.

Early Peas are most easily transplanted from pots as this keeps the ball of roots intact. Little Marvel and Gradus are good ones to grow for this crop.

Celery trenches should be prepared for plants to be put in in June. These trenches should be three or four feet apart and from twelve to sixteen inches wide and only about four to six inches deep. Some gardeners make them a foot wide and a foot deep but this depth is considered excessive by some modern growers.

Sow Greens, Carrots and Beans and Peas, Lettuce so that there may be a succession of these.

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To readers of *Hobbies Weekly* only

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A HANDY SMALL SPICE BOX

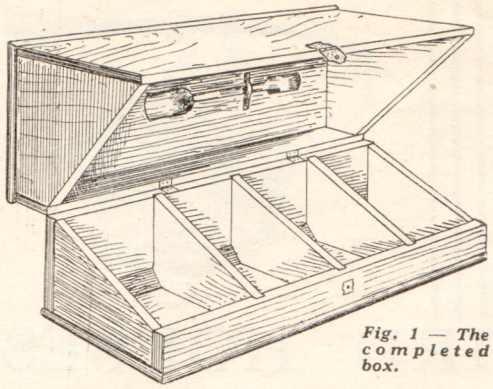


Fig. 1 — The completed box.

IF you have a few pieces of fretwood to spare, the useful little Spice Box, illustrated, would be a good thing to make. Four divisions are provided which is usually sufficient and the hinged lid can also contain a spoon or measure as seen in Fig. 1 above.

The length of the box is 8ins., the width is shown at Fig. 2. It is best to get out the sides and ends as though you were going to make a lidless box, mark off the ends and saw across at the angle, then saw the sides. Plane off the rough edges and glue and nail together to form a box and lid.

The top and bottom are cut just one ⅛in. larger all round; round off the edges and glue and nail on. The division pieces can then be cut and glued in, or better still, grooved in as shown in Fig. 3.

That illustration also shows how the bottom angles are filled up with strips of triangular shaped fillet, cut to fit between the divisions and glued in place.

Fix the lid with hinges, provide a catch, then finish the outside of the box with a coat of varnish or polish.

The inside of the box and divisions are best left plain, but glasspapered smooth.

A very useful addition to this box is a suitable scoop, or shovel-shaped spoon, such as you can buy at the fancy stores and bazaars. A stainless steel nickel-plated one can be bought for sixpence and can be kept inside the lid of the box by means of an elastic band, or metal clip.

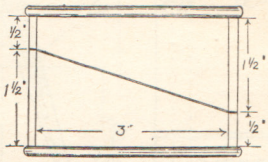


Fig. 2—A section giving dimensions.

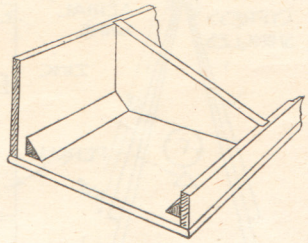


Fig. 3—Showing divisions and blocking pieces.

HOBBIES of WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE

Interesting and Intimate details of Henry Hall

WIRELESS writers are never tired of telling us about the number of hours the B.B.C. Dance Orchestra puts in at Broadcasting House. A glance at the Radio programme convinces us that Henry Hall spends a good deal of his life before the microphone, but there are rehearsals, auditions, programme building and a fan mail needing his attention beside.

Does he live at Broadcasting House? Not quite. He finds time to play a very good game of golf and he and Mrs. Hall enjoy long motor rides exploring rural England. They are both expert drivers.

Then when he is at home, there are his two children demanding to know the whys and wherefores of his performances to which they have been listening. They are good musicians too, and Henry finds great pleasure in explaining musical terms and technicalities to so intelligent an audience.

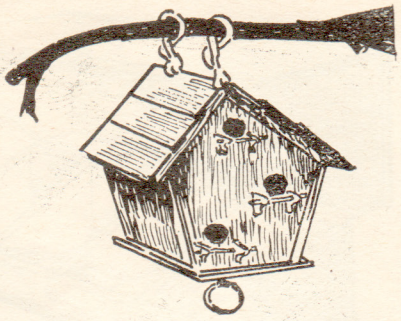
In Henry Hall's library you will find every book ever written by Edgar Wallace. Nothing delights him more than reading thrillers and working out alternative endings himself.

He knows every noted artist appearing in London and often attends a show when he has a night off—a musical show for preference. His only collection, beside the Wallace thrillers, is one of rare copies of music and songs composed ages before broadcasting was thought of. Perhaps this has something to do with his opinion that the average listener likes tuneful musical dance numbers with no "monkey tricks."

In the old Gleneagles days his dance band performances were always on the classical side. Henry Hall is capable of distinguishing the wheat from the chaff, which accounts for his great popularity at the B.B.C. and, of course, the fact that he does not parade an Oxford accent.—G.G.

Look out for further people in this popular feature!

BIRD HOUSES



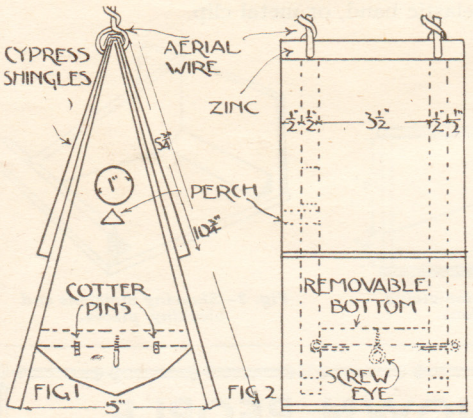
FOR a bird's house to deserve the term successful, one must have proved that it will attract the birds.

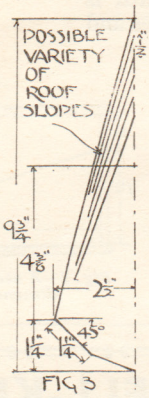
The wren's house, which is shown, has proved very attractive and being a one-compartment house it can be hung to a light branch of a spreading tree safe from any marauding cats, squirrels and other natural enemies. Since this wren's house is suspended from a branch it is entirely free from molestation, and it has also a slight swinging motion which most birds apparently consider an advantage.

Correct Proportions

It is easily erected when the wires are twisted about a branch in the proper position.

The diameter of the entrance hole is correct and permits an easy entrance and at the same time prevents sparrows from taking possession. The presence of the pin perch allows the wren to cling near the entrance ready to slip in.





A simple acute-angle house to make.

Inside dimensions and depth of cavity from the entrance hole to the floor is correct, according to experiments.

The box is easily cleaned after the birds have finished with it for the season, the four cotter keys being easily removed to allow the bottom to drop out. Then the old nest can be removed and the bottom replaced.

Because of the sharp pitch of the roof, rain is quickly run off and dampness soon disappears.

In making up, the wood for the front and back is ½in. thick. Both pieces are the same size and shape. Make a cardboard pattern similar to Fig. 3. Tack the two pieces of wood together and cut out the two pieces in one operation. Draw the centre line on the wood. Then mark off the one half with the pattern and turn the pattern over and complete the drawing of the shape.

Cut off the waste parts, then plane smooth the edges and make them at right angles. Take the two pieces separate and bore the hole for the entrance on the front or cut out with a fretsaw.

Plane up the pieces for the shingled roof, making the lower ends ⅜in. and the top ends ⅛in. thick. Use 1in. flat-headed copper nails for the fixing of the shingles to the front and back pieces. A little strip of sheet copper or zinc folded over the top makes the joints at the end of the shingles watertight.

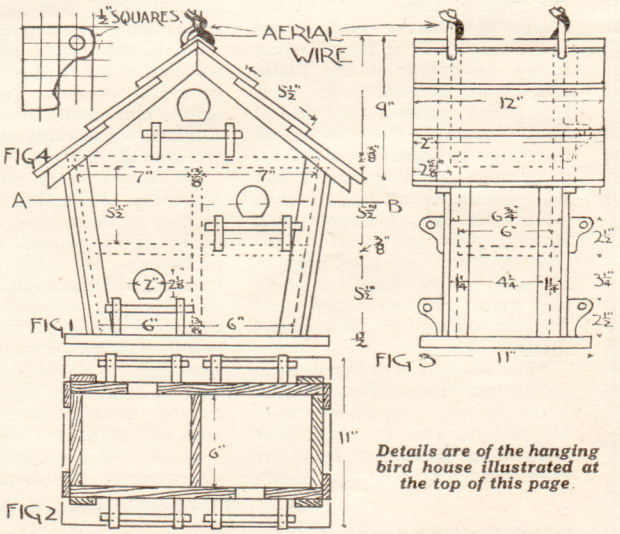
Made of cypress, the house will attract even more quickly than if made of other woods, and if coated with oil will have a natural appearance.

Cut a piece of ½in. wood for the bottom, fit carefully and then fix in position by putting two split pins in the front and back as shown at Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. A screw eye in the centre of the underside gives a grip while putting the cotter pins in position.

In making up the five-apartment bird's house, the front, back, sides, divisions and intermediate floor are ⅜in. thick. Make a cardboard pattern for the front and back piece which are both the same size and shape. Then have these cut out and planed up carefully to the size.

The Perch Brackts

Mark off the position of the perch brackets and



Details are of the hanging bird house illustrated at the top of this page.

Bird Houses—*(continued)*

the entrance to each nest. In cutting out the entrance, the easiest way is to bore a 2in. hole with an expansion bit and then to square the lower part of the hole with a port saw.

Prepare the sides, the two intermediate floors and the vertical partition. These pieces are all the same breadth, but the lengths will have to be carefully made so that when the fabric is nailed together all the joints will fit. Cut the bottom board to the sizes given.

Prepare the ten perch brackets shown at Fig. 4. These can be cut on the fretmachine and bored for the perch which is cut 6ins. long from a piece of ½in. diameter dowel wood.

Take the front and back of the house and fix the perch bracket in position. ¾in. screw nails screwed through the back of the wood into the bracket will make a strong job. Nail the front, back and sides together, and fit the floors and partition. Then fit the bottom pieces and nails to the bottom of the house.

Prepare the roof boards which are six in number to the length and fit on to the walls of the house. Fit the four ⅝in. facing pieces under the roof covering. The 1¼ by ¼in. corner pieces are cut between the bottom board of the house and the underside of the roof and nailed to corners of the front and sides.

Finishing Touches

Cut the perch pins to 6ins. long and fit into the brackets. Bore the holes for the aerial wires, then cover the ridge joint of the roof with a small strip of zinc.

The house is now ready for a few coats of paint, and for those who wish to attract small birds quickly, an embroidery ring suspended to the underside as shown is an attraction for them.

HOBBIES LEAGUE CORRESPONDENCE CLUB

These Members of Hobbies League would like to get in touch with other readers and so form pen friendships which will undoubtedly prove interesting to all. In this way, one has a wide circle of friends and increased knowledge in people and places, not only in one's own country, but all over the world. Members should write direct to the addresses given, stating their full address and age, and adding any hobbies in which they are interested. Hundreds of members have already taken advantage of this Correspondence Club in this way and others who wish to do so should notify the Registrar with the necessary particulars.

NAME	ADDRESS	WANTS FRIENDS	INTERESTS, Etc.
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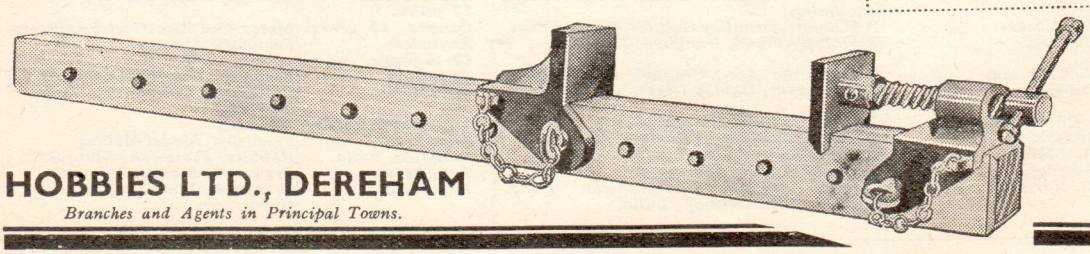

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New Issues and Notes

IN these columns a month ago there was illustrated a stamp from Papua, this was one of a set of four. Now we have two new stamps from another part of the same island; that part which, before it was captured by the Australians in 1914, was known as German New Guinea.

The Australians renamed this territory New Britain, but subsequently it was assigned to Australia under mandate, and now goes by the name "Territory of New Guinea." The design of this stamp is almost the same as that of the 1931 issue when it was selected to grace the stamps commemorating ten years of Australian rule. The difference is that the two dates 1921-1931 have been left out; these appeared above the scroll work at the bottom.

The bird depicted is the Bird of Paradise, one of the family akin to crows, and which take their name from the beauty of the plumage of the cock birds.

HOW many readers could take an atlas and without any hesitation put their finger upon the sovereign state of Liechtenstein? As a matter of fact on most maps a finger tip would completely cover this small principality because it is under 60 square miles in area. Even so, it is not the smallest stamp-issuing country in Europe by any means, being much bigger than Monaco or San Marino, while it completely dwarfs a third —the Vatican City.

It is a pity, but Liechtenstein has an unenviable reputation of printing stamps for the benefit (or otherwise) of philatelists, because since 1912 this little region has had something like thirty different issues, a number, of course, which includes changes in surcharges, thickness of paper, etc. When a country gets this reputation it is killing the goose which lays the golden eggs, because philatelists then leave the stamps severely alone.

Of course this does not mean that if a stamp from that country should come to hand easily it is thrown away, but that money is not spent on purchasing these stamps.

It is really to draw the attention of the readers to this class of country that this particular stamp is shown this week. Mention must here be made also of Italy as an offending country, though on representation being made to the correct quarter, assurance has been given that the issue of such large quantities will be stopped henceforth.

In the case of Liechtenstein it must be admitted that some of the views shown on the stamps of this country are so beautiful that collectors can hardly pass them by despite their abhorrence of the exploitation which may be going on.

STAMPS of action have a great fascination for most of us and the Spanish Morocco Express Letter Stamp shows a fine action picture of a Moorish Courier.

Another action picture stamp has just been issued, and this has the added attraction that the theme is sporting. It comes to us as can be seen from Colombia, and is issued to commemorate the third national olympiad which was held at Barranquilla.

HAVING mentioned a very small state, as having provided us with a new issue, it is almost necessary to mention an even smaller, namely the Vatican City. This state only comprises about 100 acres and includes that part of the city of Rome in the immediate vicinity of the Vatican Palace.

The state has its own diplomatic representatives, executive, legislature and judicature, and of course, stamps, coinage, railway station and newspaper. The population is about 1,000.

The set of stamps just issued is made up of six stamps, having two designs. For the three lower values, 5c., 10c. and 25c., the design is as illustrated; for the 75c. 80c. and the 1 1.25c (one lire 25 cents.) there is a design showing Tribonian presenting Pandects to Justinian.

The illustration shows Pope Gregory IX presenting Decretals to Jurist the Second.

IN the middle of February the rarest stamp in the World was insured for the huge sum of £10,000 The history of this stamp is exceedingly interesting. It was printed in a British Guiana newspaper office, and was discovered in 1872 in a schoolboy's collection. He is supposed to have sold it to another collector for six shillings. Later, Ferrari, a celebrated Austrian collector bought it for £155 and when this man's great collection was sold (for over £400,000) this one stamp was bought by the late Mr. Arthur Hind for £7,343. That was over 14 years ago, and now the stamp is again on the market, with an insurance value of £10,000.

This is of course one of the very exceptional cases, but one of which every collector dreams and hopes one day will come true for him.

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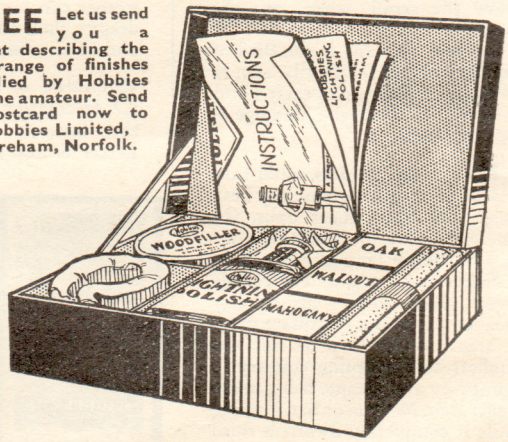

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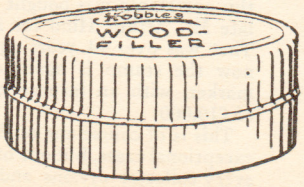

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DESIGN SHEETS.

The presentation Design Sheet is given only with current copies of Hobbies Weekly, and not with back numbers. The designs, however, can be obtained separately, from Hobbies Ltd., price 4½d., post free, or 10d. in the case of double size sheets.

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The Editor is always pleased to consider suitable articles for these pages, which, if accepted, will be paid for at the usual rates. While every effort will be made to return unsuitable contributions (if stamps for that purpose are sent with them), the Editor does not accept any responsibility for their loss.

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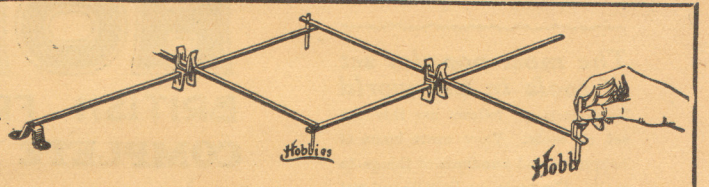

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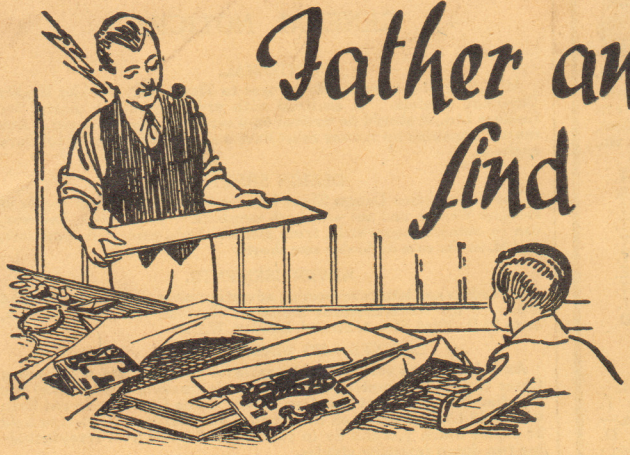

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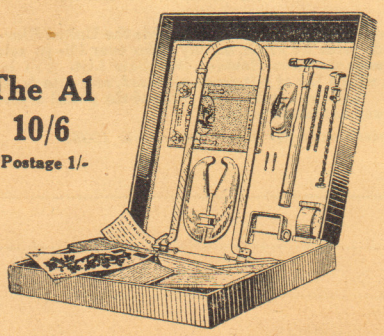

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